

Message Text

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15

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAB-01 SCCT-01 VO-02 SCA-01

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DRAFTED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN
APPROVED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN
S/PRS - MR. KING (INFO)
H - MISS FOLGER (INFO)
IO/P - MR. BLACHLY
EUR/P - MR. SAVAGE
NEA/ARN - MR. KORN
AF/P - MRS. RUSSELL

----- 060908

R 312044Z OCT 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
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AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY SANAA
USINT BAGHDAD

UNCLAS STATE 239644

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR
SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING OCTOBER 31, 1974:

QUOTE: Q. IS THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT RE-EVALUATING
ITS POLICY TOWARD THE PALESTINIANS IN LIGHT OF THE RABAT
DECISION -- THE PLO, EXCUSE ME?

A. I'M SORRY I WON'T HAVE ANYTHING MORE TO SAY ON THAT
SUBJECT THAN WAS SAID AT THE WHITE HOUSE YESTERDAY HERE AND
ALSO BY THE SECRETARY IN DACCA.

Q. IS THE STATE DEPARTMENT GOING TO SEND ITS REPRESENTA-
TIVE TO A FEDERAL COURT TOMORROW IN NEW YORK ON THE PALES-
TINIAN CASE?

A. I JUST SAW A TICKER BEFORE I CAME OUT HERE. I DIDN'T
HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT WITH LEGAL COUNSEL. BUT A
SHOW-CAUSE ORDER, AS I UNDERSTAND IT FROM THE REPORT, WOULD
HAVE TO BE EXAMINED BY THE LEGAL DIVISION, AND WE WOULD
RESPOND APPROPRIATELY TO THE COURT AT SOME POINT.

Q. I SEE. WHO USUALLY REPRESENTS THE DEPARTMENT IN THESE
CASES IN THE COURT?

A. THE OFFICE OF THE LEGAL ADVISER WILL HANDLE IT HERE.
I CAN'T SAY WHO WILL GO TO COURT. IT MAY BE SOMEONE FROM
JUSTICE.

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Q. DID THE PALESTINIANS REQUEST VISAS TO ENTER THE UNITED
STATES FOR THE UN DEBATE?

A. I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING REALLY NEW ON THAT. WE POSTED
ABOUT TEN DAYS AGO -- ABOUT A WEEK AGO -- A LIST OF FOUR
OR FIVE NAMES OF PEOPLE WHO REQUESTED VISAS, AND I JUST
CAN CALL IT TO MIND, BUT IT WAS ON THE BOARD.

Q. HAVE THEY BEEN GRANTED VISAS?

A. TO MY KNOWLEDGE, NOT YET, NO.

Q. WHERE WAS THE REQUEST MADE, IN BEIRUT?

A. NO, THEY ARE MADE TO THE UN SECRETARIAT.

Q. ANY ADDITIONAL REQUESTS FOR VISAS, LIKE FROM YASSIR ARAFAT?

A. I DIDN'T RAISE THAT QUESTION SPECIFICALLY THIS MORNING, BUT AS OF YESTERDAY WE HAD NOTHING, NO.

Q. A VERY GENERAL QUESTION. DO YOU KNOW WHETHER THE HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS IN NEW YORK PROVIDING FOR FREE ACCESS O- DIPLOMATS THERE, WHETHER THEY COME FROM COUNTRIES WE RECOGNIZE OR NOT, CONTAINS ANY QUALIFICATIONS WITH REGARD TO PEOPLE WHO MAY BE GUILTY OF CRIMINAL ACTS OR ACTS REGARDED AS CRIMINAL BY THE UNITED STATES?

A. OFFHAND, I DON'T KNOW. I DON'T KNOW THE TERMS OF THAT HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT IN THAT KIND OF DETAIL.

Q. WILL YOU CHECK?

A. I'LL LOOK INTO IT, YES.

Q. IT WOULD HAVE TO BE FINELY DRAWN BECAUSE I IMAGINE THERE ARE A BUNCH OF CROOKS UP THERE THAT ARE NOT PARTICULARLY NOTORIOUS. END QUOTE. INGERSOLL
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